

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): A water electrolysis system, comprising:
an electrode including a metal oxynitride electrode catalyst comprising an oxynitride containing at least one transition metal element selected from the group consisting of La, Ta, Nb, Ti, and Zr, wherein atomic ratio of
(transition metal element):(oxygen):(nitrogen) is $(1\pm0.1):(1\pm0.1):(1\pm0.1)$; and
an acidic electrolyte contacting said metal oxynitride electrode catalyst;
wherein said metal oxynitride electrode catalyst having a potential of 0.4 V or higher relative to the reversible hydrogen electrode potential in said acidic electrolyte, and
water is electrolyzed in the water electrolysis system by electric power.

2. (Previously presented): The water electrolysis system according to Claim 1, wherein the metal oxynitride electrode catalyst is dispersed as fine particles on a catalyst carrier which is an electronically conductive powder.

3 to 5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently amended): An organic electrolysis system, comprising:
an electrode including a metal oxynitride electrode catalyst comprising an oxynitride

containing at least one transition metal element selected from the group consisting of La, Ta, Nb, Ti, and Zr, wherein atomic ratio of

(transition metal element):(oxygen):(nitrogen) is $(1\pm 0.1):(1\pm 0.1):(1\pm 0.1)$; and

an acidic electrolyte contacting said metal oxynitride electrode catalyst;

wherein said metal oxynitride electrode catalyst having a potential of 0.4 V or higher relative to the reversible hydrogen electrode potential in said acidic electrolyte, and

an organic compound is electrolyzed in the organic electrolysis system by electric power.

7. (Previously presented): The organic electrolysis system according to Claim 6, wherein the metal oxynitride electrode catalyst is dispersed as fine particles on a catalyst carrier which is an electronically conductive powder.

8. (Currently amended): A fuel cell, comprising:

an electrode including a metal oxynitride electrode catalyst comprising an oxynitride containing at least one transition metal element selected from the group consisting of La, Ta, Nb, Ti, and Zr, wherein atomic ratio of

(transition metal element):(oxygen):(nitrogen) is $(1\pm 0.1):(1\pm 0.1):(1\pm 0.1)$; and

an acidic electrolyte contacting said metal oxynitride electrode catalyst;

wherein said metal oxynitride electrode catalyst having a potential of 0.4 V or higher relative to the reversible hydrogen electrode potential in said acidic electrolyte, and

electric power is generated by the fuel cell.

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9. (Previously presented): The fuel cell according to Claim 8, wherein the metal oxynitride electrode catalyst is dispersed as fine particles on a catalyst carrier which is an electronically conductive powder.